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The Honorable Barry M. Goldwater  
Chairman, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence  
Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510.

Dear Senator Goldwater:

As part of the continuing review of CIA programs, the Deputy Director for Intelligence has convoked an outside working group to review the Agency's program for estimating Soviet military expenditure. The working group will be chaired by me and will consist of a number of outside consultants. They will review the basis of the current estimates; the confidence and inherent limitations in these; and the uses to which the estimates are put.

As part of its deliberations, the group will solicit the views of a wide cross-section of observers, both within and without the government. The purpose of this letter is to extend an invitation to you and members of your Committee, or to a staff member, to present the group with your views on the utility of the estimates. I will be in touch with you to learn your response and, if you are willing, to make suitable arrangements for the meeting.

If you wish, you may submit a written statement to the group, (at any level of classification you deem appropriate), either in preparation for your meeting or subsequently. We can discuss arrangements for a statement when we make arrangements for your appearance.

In the meetings of the working group (which may be conducted at any level of classification), all questions and answers will be transcribed, except where the respondent requests to go "off the record". Access to the transcripts of these proceedings, including any statements submitted, will be controlled by me (subject to the rules of handling classified materials).

Sincerely,

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